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ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

> Re: Serial No.: 09/449,204
> Applicant(s): ANTHONY H. DODGE, ET AL.
> Filing Date: NOVEMBER 24, 1999
> For: PCR ASSAY
> Group Art Unit: 1655
> Examiner: FORMAN, B.

(round stamp: OIPE — FEB 0 2 2001 — PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE)

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

AMENDMENT

Our check in the amount of $__-0-__ is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary extension of time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to Deposit Account No. 50-1442. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a request is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

PIPER MARBURY RUDNICK & WOLFE LLP

(signature)

02-02-01
_____
Date

_____
Steven B. Kelber
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: ANTHONY H. DODGE, ET AL.   GAU: 1655

SERIAL NO: 09/449,204   EXAMINER: FORMAN, B.

FILING DATE: NOVEMBER 24, 1999

FOR: PCR ASSAY

OIPE

FEB 0 2 2001

PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

This Amendment is submitted in answer to the Office Action dated November 2, 2000,

which set a three month period for response. Thus, this Amendment is timely filed on or before

February 2, 2001.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1, 3, 6-7, 15, and 22 without prejudice.

2. (Amended)   The method of Claim [1] 23, further comprising washing the [capture

molecule:target molecule] capture antibody:target molecule complex to remove unbound sample

after step (a).

In Claim 4, line 1, delete "1" and insert therefor - -23- -;

delete "capture molecule" and insert therefor - -capture antibody- -.